

**What is claimed is:**

1. A multi-purpose solution for contact lens care comprising:
  - an aqueous liquid medium; and
  - an antimicrobial component, the antimicrobial component comprising from about 0.000005 to about 0.000009 w/v% polyquaternium-1 and from about 0.000005 to about 0.000009 w/v% high molecular weight PHMB, wherein the PHMB has a number average molecular weight of from about 4000 to about 45,000, and further wherein the PHMB has been separated from PHMB material having a number average molecular weight outside said range or has been chemically synthesized to result in said range.
- 10 2. The solution as in claim 1, further comprising a surfactant in an amount effective to clean a contact lens contacted with said solution.
3. The multi-purpose solution of claim 2, wherein said surfactant is selected from the group consisting of poly (oxyethylene) -poly(oxypropylene) block copolymers and mixtures thereof, and is present in an amount in a range of about 0.01% to about 1.0% (w/v).
- 15 4. The solution as in claim 1, further comprising a buffer component in an amount effective in maintaining the pH of said solution within a physiologically acceptable range.
5. The multi-purpose solution of claim 1, further comprising a buffer component selected from the group consisting of tromethamine, tromethamine salts, phosphate salts, taurine and mixtures thereof in the range of about 0.01% to about 0.5% (w/v).
- 20 6. The solution as in claim 1, further comprising a viscosity-inducing component selected from the group consisting of cellulosic derivatives and mixtures thereof in the range of about 0.05% to about 5.0% (w/v) of the total solution.
7. The multi-purpose solution of claim 6 wherein said viscosity-inducing component is hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

8. The solution as in claim 1, further comprising a chelating component in an amount of less than 0.05% (w/v) of the total solution.

9. The multi-purpose solution of claim 8 wherein said chelating component is EDTA.

10. The solution as in claim 1, further comprising a tonicity component in an amount  
5 effective in providing the desired tonicity to said solution.

11. The multi-purpose solution of claim 10, wherein said tonicity component comprises a combination of sodium chloride and potassium chloride and is present in a range of about 0.4% to about 1.5% (w/v).

10 12. A method for disinfecting a contact lens comprising contacting the lens with an aqueous solution comprising from about 0.000005 to about 0.00009 w/v% polyquaternium-1 and from about 0.000005 to about 0.00009 w/v% high molecular weight PHMB, wherein the PHMB has a number average molecular weight of from about 4000 to about 45,000, and further wherein the PHMB has been separated from PHMB material having a number average molecular weight outside 15 said range or has been chemically synthesized to result in said range.

13. The method for disinfecting as in claim 12, wherein the solution further comprises a component selected from the group consisting of a buffer, a surfactant, a viscosity inducing agent, a chelating agent and a tonicity component.

14. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein said surfactant is selected from 20 the group consisting of poly (oxyethylene) -poly(oxypropylene) block copolymers and mixtures thereof, and is present in an amount in a range of about 0.01% to about 1.0% (w/v).

15. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein said buffer is selected from the group consisting of tromethamine, tromethamine salts, phosphate salts, taurine and mixtures thereof in the range of about 0.01% to about 0.5% (w/v).

16. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein the viscosity-inducing agent is  
5 selected from the group consisting of cellulosic derivatives and mixtures thereof in the range of about 0.05% to about 5.0% (w/v) of the total solution.

17. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein the chelating agent is present in an amount of less than 0.05% (w/v) of the total solution.

18. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein the tonicity component is  
10 present in an amount effective in providing the desired tonicity to said solution.

19. The method for disinfecting as in claim 13, wherein said tonicity component comprises a combination of sodium chloride and potassium chloride and is present in a range of about 0.4% to about 1.5% (w/v).